

throughout his 14 years in the NFL, and today I, along with Patriots fans across New England, congratulate him on a fantastic career and wish him success in the next chapter of his life.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ELEANOR SANTEE

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today, I would like to honor a woman of incomparable dedication and grace. After 26 years of loyal service to the Scranton School District, Mrs. Eleanor Santee retired from her position as a secretary at Robert Morris Elementary School on March 2, 2007.

Throughout Eleanor's years of service, the combination of her experience and work ethic allowed her to provide capable administrative support for the three principals of Robert Morris Elementary under whom she served. More importantly, Eleanor took the time and initiative to provide support, encouragement, and friendship to the thousands of students who passed through the school during tenure. Some people with Eleanor's years of experience might have become complacent, but Eleanor understood that in order to be successful a school must go beyond mere academic success; it must also provide a nurturing environment where pupils can develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for success throughout life. Eleanor made an indelible mark on Robert Morris Elementary and all who passed through there. She can take pride in a job well done.

In retirement, I have no doubt that Eleanor will continue to be an active citizen of my hometown, Scranton, PA, where she resides with her husband Richard.

I congratulate Eleanor on her many years of service to Robert Morris Elementary School and wish her the best in health and happiness at the completion of an admirable career.●

APPRECIATION FOR TOM GARY, JR.

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to commend Tom Gary of Greenwood, MS, for his distinguished service during the past year as president of the Delta Council.

Delta Council is an economic development organization representing the business, professional, and agricultural leadership of the 18 delta and part-delta counties of Northwest Mississippi. Delta Council was organized in 1935 to help meet the challenges which confronted this region of our State.

A major concern of the Mississippi Delta was the impact of Mississippi River and tributary flooding. Flood protection and drainage have severely challenged the delta region throughout its history. This is an area of concern where Tom Gary has distinguished himself as a leader. Tom took the lead-

ership of the Delta Council Flood Control Committee following a serious delta flood in 1991 and led the effort to accelerate construction and completion of all Yazoo Basin projects. The 1991 flood inundated more than 1.1 million acres in 15 delta towns; and it seriously damaged schools, roads, public facilities and cropland. After Gary's term as Flood Control Committee chairman, cities such as Greenville, the largest town in north Mississippi, received benefits that will provide 100-year flood protection.

Tom serves as vice president of Delta Wildlife, chairman of the Leflore County Farm Service Agency Committee, commissioner and treasurer of the Leflore County Soil and Water Conservation Commission, director of the Business and Industry Political Education Committee and as the Cotton Board director of Farmers Supply Cooperative. He was also appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture as a member of the Cotton Board.

Through his work with Delta Council, Tom has become a strong advocate and effective leader in advancing Delta Council's mission in adult literacy, the fight against critical teacher shortages in the primary and secondary school system, improved access to health care, and in transportation developments which are so vital to the delta region.

I congratulate Tom Gary and his wife Moxie for the contribution they have made to the delta through their service in Delta Council during the past year.●

TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS HARVEY

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to speak about a recent change in the top leadership in our Army. Dr. Francis Harvey departed as Secretary of the Army at a ceremony at Fort Myer, VA. Farewell ceremonies are often held at Fort Myer for soldiers of all ranks as they pass the torch to those men and women who will take over the responsibility of defending our Nation. The ceremony at Fort Myer honors their contributions and symbolizes the continuity between the past and the future. Secretary of the Army Harvey's service as Secretary of the Army was during a particularly crucial time for the Army. The Nation is at war against a dangerous and determined enemy. That war is of long duration, and the Army has borne the brunt of the fighting. The nature of this war, and the demands it has made on the Army, has resulted in great challenges for the senior leadership of the Army. Secretary Harvey accepted those challenges and worked with skill, determination, and honor to overcome them and keep our Army strong and ready today and to prepare it for tomorrow. Many of us in Congress know of and appreciated Secretary Harvey's commitment to the Army. But the person who is best able to tell of his accomplishments and his contribution to the Army is his close partner, the Chief of

Staff of the Army. I am pleased to commend to my colleagues GEN Peter Schoomaker's speech thanking Secretary Harvey for his service to the Army. I bid Secretary Harvey farewell, thank him for his service to our country, and wish him all the best in the next chapter of his life.

The material follows.

SPEECH BY GENERAL SCHOOMAKER

Secretary and Mrs. Harvey, Deputy Secretary England, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, General Pace . . . Sergeant Major of the Army Preston, other distinguished guests and friends. Today Dr. Fran Harvey, our 19th Secretary of the Army, departs our ranks but not our hearts. I am grateful to have had the privilege and honor to serve by his side. When Secretary Harvey was sworn in back in November 2004 I provided him a photo of a Soldier on bended knee in Iraq carrying an almost unbearable load.

I explained to Secretary Harvey that this picture should serve to remind him—that like all leaders across our Army—everything he does will impact our Soldiers on the ground. Our challenge, therefore, was to lighten the load our Soldiers bear (in other words, to “take things out of their rucksacks,” as we like to say).

While he has kept it on his desk for two years let me tell you in no uncertain terms Secretary Harvey needed no such reminder. He was quick to state, and truly believed, that “Soldiers are and will always be our centerpiece. Their efforts are the reason the Army is one of the most respected organizations in America.”

This conviction was evident in everything I saw him do as our Secretary. Everything was based on his passionate concern for the Army, its Soldiers, their families, and our Army Civilians.

This concern is reflected in the other picture on his desk, one of two ladies, the mothers of two fallen Soldiers. That picture serves as a reminder of the sacrifices our Soldiers and their families are making. His dedication was reflected in his personal and professional commitment to “provide a quality of life for our Soldiers that matched the quality of service they provide to the Nation.”

And he has worked tirelessly to do just that. Because of his vision, his dedication, and his unfailing commitment he departs our ranks today knowing with absolute certainty that our Soldiers and their families as well as the Army Civilians who support them have benefited greatly from his service. I have no doubt that our Army is far better today than we were just two years ago.

Our progress in many cases is the direct result of his determination to stand-up to those who challenged the basis of our requirements to properly support our Soldiers.

He also inspired us to think differently and far more strategically about how we “do business.” Without doubt these qualities are a testament to the unique brand of values-based, principle-centered leadership he demonstrated with absolute conviction in his service as Secretary of the Army.

In short his impact on our Army has been profound. He has moved us significantly forward in our collective and continuing efforts to meet the needs of the Nation that we serve.

My remarks will be brief because you came to hear Secretary Harvey, not me. We've convened today to honor him and his family and bear witness to the sacrifice of our Soldiers and the contributions our Army is making worldwide in defense of the Nation.

We often overlook the fact that to perform his duties as our Secretary . . . he has endured his own experience in “family separation” by being apart from Mary his gracious

wife of over forty years for more than twenty-eight months. While we could spend the remainder of today highlighting Secretary Harvey's achievements neither he nor you would be very appreciative of "the mother of all laundry lists." So I will briefly highlight three broad but interrelated touchstones: People, Resources, and Teamwork.

Dr. Harvey's commitment to people has enabled us to sustain the overall health and viability of our All-Volunteer force—which is now being tested for the first time in a protracted conflict. His actions have enabled us to achieve unprecedented levels of both recruitment and retention. "People are the Army" and we recruit more of them each year than all of the other Services combined. In Fiscal Year 2006 the Active component had its best year in nine years recruiting over 80,000 men and women. The National Guard had its best year in thirteen years recruiting over 69,000 people; finally, the Reserves achieved over a 25 percent increase from the previous year bringing in 25,000 new people.

His accomplishments on behalf of the great people in our organization have been a logical continuation of his voluntary service to the Army as a key member of the Army Science Board while a private citizen over many years.

They include: Improvements which enabled us to meet our goals for recruiting and retaining our All Volunteer force; decisions and support to provide for better access and better management of our vital National Guard and Army Reserve units not as individuals but instead as whole cohesive units fully prepared and ready to perform their duties amidst new challenges; and decisions and support to grow our force—in an extraordinary way—to better meet our needs and to alleviate, over time, current levels of stress on our Soldiers and their families.

We now have dramatic enhancements to "push the envelope" increasing our ability to protect the force. These include considerable improvements affecting all elements of the Department to improve leadership, training, education, and career opportunities for our civilians and our civilian executives and equally impressive improvements in finding ways—to change our culture—to drive out waste and improve both efficiency and effectiveness. In this regard he thought and acted unequivocally like a Soldier.

He was driven by a single unifying purpose: to free human and financial resources for more compelling wartime and operational needs. Properly focusing activity and obtaining resources to enable that activity are core tasks for senior leaders. No one that I have served with in public or private life does it better than Dr. Fran Harvey. Our budgeted dollars for Fiscal 2008, due to his personal efforts, are the highest in our history—which exemplify his leadership in this regard. Working in full collaboration with me and all of "the right people" he quickly established a strategic framework that reflected our most urgent challenges and ongoing initiatives. He then set out in a determined yet pragmatic fashion to obtain the resources required to support our Army to ensure it was fully prepared to serve at the forefront of the war on terror and to execute the full range of its other worldwide missions.

Creating relevant, ready forces is the surest measure of effective Army leadership. Since 2004 sixty-four (64) Brigade Combat Teams have been converted or are in the process of being converted; 148 multifunctional and functional support Brigades have been converted, or are in the process of being converted, to the modular design force.

I won't dwell on numbers. While important they do little to tell this story. I will highlight instead the personal courage and integ-

rity he demonstrated in challenging the bureaucracy, changing perceptions, and setting us on a path to get our resources and our requirements in balance. His leadership proved to be decisive in this regard. Not only did he establish a methodology (demonstrating why he has been so successful in "Corporate America") to explain why our costs have increased in recent years, he also promoted understanding and acceptance at the highest levels of our Government for our most compelling needs. We will rely upon Fran Harvey's example "to do what is right" for many years to come.

He also inspired all of us in the Army to achieve more—in what we do personally . . . and in what we expect to be delivered by others. In this regard . . . two of his deep seated beliefs will remain embedded in the culture which shapes and characterizes our Army: "In the bottom line it's all about 'cost, schedule, and performance' plain and simple and what gets measured gets done."

His efforts have dramatically improved the quality and openness of our working relationships within the Department of Defense and with the many stakeholders upon whom we depend for resources and support. In a word, he is a genuine "team player" who has engendered unprecedented levels of teamwork which will benefit our Soldiers. Our personal working relationship is the result of our mutual decision to operate from the same playbook. And that playbook was based on a couple of key fundamentals. We agreed that the door between our offices would always remain open and that our relationship would be based upon one core belief—that Soldiers would remain the center of all that we do.

Over the past two years we've crossed that threshold that used to be blocked many times a day. Opening the door between our offices not only opened lines of communication, it also enabled progress in three other very important ways: First, as an outgrowth of the extremely close partnership between Secretary Harvey and me we set the tone for a strong civil-military team at the top of the Department. Second, we were unified in our commitment to a single Vision—the Army Vision—that centers, as it must, on the great Soldiers who fill our ranks and the dedicated Army Civilians who support them to generate and sustain our All-Volunteer force. Third, teamwork and a shared vision for the future enabled our entire team to better articulate and defend the Army's most compelling needs.

I'm convinced that these positive developments played a vital role in dramatically changing our current and projected resource posture and ultimately to better provide for our Soldiers and to better accomplish what the Nation demands from its Army. So as we farewell our 19th Secretary I say so long to a visionary, a "true leader" and a teammate with whom I have been enormously proud to serve. He has led the Army to unprecedented levels of civil-military cooperation, fostered open communication, and mutual respect (even in times of disagreement) all in the interest of Soldiers, families, and the Army mission—to conduct prompt, sustained combat and stability operations on land. I have mentioned just a few of the seminal achievements that will endure and continue to bear fruit long after Dr. Harvey departs our ranks today. Selfless leadership is that rare and wonderful commodity of which every nation possesses too little. Its presence is unmistakable, its impact enduring.

We are fortunate to have the continuity of vision and direction that Acting Secretary Geren now represents. Sir, we welcome your leadership and your experience as a Member of Congress and within the office of the Secretary of Defense. We know that you'll lead

and care for our Soldiers and families and that you're going to keep us on course.

Secretary Harvey, Sir, thank you for your service for your friendship and for living the Army Values and for honoring our Warrior Ethos. Because of your leadership we're "Army Strong" and as our song says we'll "keep rolling along." Together we wish you, Mary, Francis, John and the rest of your family Godspeed.

Army Strong!•

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The following enrolled bill, previously signed by the Speaker of the House, was signed today, April 12, 2007, by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

S. 1002. An act to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to reinstate certain provisions relating to the nutrition services incentive programs.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on April 12, 2007, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 1002. An act to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to reinstate certain provisions relating to the nutrition services incentive programs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1434. A communication from the Administrator, Livestock and Seed Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Soybean Promotion and Research: Qualified State Soybean Boards; Correcting Amendment" received April 4, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1435. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the release of General Peter J. Shoomaker, United States Army, from active duty and his return to the Retired List as of April 10, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1436. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting, the report of several legislative proposals relative to the National Defense Authorization Bill for fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1437. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to activities and assistance provided under Cooperative Threat Reduction Programs; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1438. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's compliance with certain requirements of the USA PATRIOT Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1439. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration,